Development Input

Providing Input into the MedBiquitous Development Process for the Virtual Patient Data Schema

October 9, 2006

Input from working group members and those implementing standards is important to the standards development process. To better track and organize comments on the Virtual Patient Data schema and resolutions to those comments, we have deployed a wiki listing of comments on the MedBiquitous Virtual Patient Group Confluence site.

Providing Comments on Specific Elements

To provide comments on the schema:

1. Go to http://groups.medbiq.org/confluence/display/VPWG/VPD+Schema+Comments
2. Click the Edit tab.
3. Put your cursor in the last row of the table.
4. Click the Insert row after button.
5. Type your name, organization, comments and the XML elements to which the comments pertain in the appropriate fields.
6. Click the Save button.
7. Be prepared to discuss the comment on the next Virtual Patient Working Group teleconference.

Long Comments

If your comments are quite long, please send an email to the group (medbiqvirtualpatient@spitfire.ctsnet.org) describing your comments and then reference the email in the Comments field of the database record. You can reference the date and time of the email or provide a hyperlink to the message. A discussion forum of email messages is available.

General Comments

If you have more general comments, in other words, comments that relate to a group of elements or the entire schema, these may be best explained in an email message. Comments may also be brought up on the working group teleconferences.

Consideration of Comments

Each comment will be discussed by the group as a whole unless the comment is a minor correction that requires no discussion. Changes to the schema will not be made until the group has discussed the comment and determined how to proceed. Staff may consider the recommendations in advance of a teleconference and provide recommendations in the Staff recommendations field. Once the comments have been discussed, MedBiquitous staff will add the group's feedback to this field so that it serves as a disposition of comments. If changes are recommended, the status of changes will be indicated in the Status field.

Where to get the schema and specification

Specifications are uploaded to the group's Confluence space. Multiple versions may be uploaded to this area, but the specification version will be included in the file name.

The most up-to-date version of the Virtual Patient Data schema is available in the MedBiquitous XML Repository, available from: http://www.medbiq.org/repository/index.html

The repository allows you to "subscribe" to a schema or other document. When you are subscribed, you will be notified of any changes to the schema. Instructions on creating a repository account, accessing the repository, and subscribing to a schema follow.

Creating a Repository Account

1. Go to: http://www.medbiq.org/repository/
2. Click Continue to MedBiquitous XML Repository. An XML Canon Login page displays.
3. Click Create new portal account at the bottom of the page. Create XML Canon Portal User page displays.
4. Complete the Login form and click Submit. Note that your User Name must begin with the pound sign (#) and spaces are not allowed. You must complete each field in the form to create an account. The MedBiquitous XML repository displays.

Accessing the Repository

1. Go to: http://www.medbiq.org/repository/
2. Click Continue to MedBiquitous XML Repository. An XML Canon Login page displays.
3. Type your User Name and Password and click Submit. Your User Name should begin with a pound sign (#). The MedBiquitous XML repository displays.
4. Click the browse button at the top of the window, then click categories. A list of XML categories displays. The categories serve as folders for organizing schemas and related files.
5. Click the + sign to the left of a category to view its contents. Please note that Name and Address schemas are in the Member category. A list of files in the category displays. Note that schema files end with the .xsd file extension.
6. Click the file that you would like to access. XML Canon lets you view the schema and its components, validate instance files, and save the file.
7. Click Save As at the bottom of the screen.
8. Follow the on-screen instructions to save a .zip file containing the word document. You must "unzip" the file using a program like WinZip or PKUnzip to read the file.

Subscribing to a Schema

1. Browse to the Virtual Patient Data schema within the XML repository.
2. Click the History tab in the right part of the page.
3. Under Notifications, select either Notify me via web report OR Notify me via email.
4. Click Update.